

## Message Text

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46

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 EB-07

PRS-01 USIE-00 PA-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 OC-05 OCL-00

SCCT-01 SY-05 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 COME-00

DHA-02 H-02 /062 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RBARRETT:BJR

APPROVED BY AF:EDWARD W. MULCAHY

AF/P:JMPOPE

S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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O 231757Z AUG 75 ZFF5

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA IMMEDIATE

USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

CINCUSNAVEUR IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR IMMEDIATE

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CNO IMMEDIATE

SECDEF IMMEDIATE

OSD/ISA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 201479 TOSEC 100087

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CDES, ET

SUBJECT:DEATH OF TWO AMERICANS

REF: ADDIS 10190

1. CONCUR YOUR VIEWS IN REFTEL AND HAVE PREPARED THE  
FOLLOWING GUIDANCE FOR USE BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN ON IF  
ASKED BASIS. CISCO ADVISED AND ALSO CONCURS.  
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2. QUOTE: QUESTION: WHO WERE THE TWO AMERICANS KILLED IN  
ASMARA?

ANSWER: THEY WERE TWO CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF COLLINS

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE COMPANY (CISCO) WHO WERE WORKING ON CONTRACT FOR THE NAVY AT THE NAVAL COMMUNICATION UNIT KNOWN AS KAGNEW STATION IN ASMARA.

QUESTION: WHO KILLED THEM?

ANSWER: THEY WERE KILLED BY A LAND MINE WHICH WE ASSUME WAS PLANTED BY ERITREAN INSURGENTS WHO ARE IN REBELLION AGAINST THE CENTRAL ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT.

QUESTION: WAS IT THE INTENTION OF THE INSURGENTS TO KILL AMERICANS?

ANSWER: WE CANNOT CONCLUDE OR ASSUME THAT. THE MINE WAS PLACED ON A ROAD WHICH IS ALSO TRAVELLED BY ETHIOPIANS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE ETHIOPIAN SECOND DIVISION, THE PRINCIPLE MILITARY UNIT FIGHTING THE ERITREAN INSURGENTS.

QUESTION: HAVE AMERICANS BEEN TARGETTED BEFORE?

ANSWER: THERE HAS NOT TO OUR KNOWLEDGE BEEN ANY DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO HARM AMERICANS SINCE THE RESUMPTION OF HEAVY FIGHTING EARLY THIS YEAR.

QUESTION: IS THERE ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS EVENT AND THE COLLINS EMPLOYEES WHO ARE BEING DETAINED BY THE INSURGENTS?

ANSWER: SINCE WE CANNOT CONCLUDE THAT THE DEAD AMERICANS WERE THE INTENDED VICTIMS OF THIS MINE WE CANNOT SEE ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THESE TWO EVENTS.

QUESTION: WHAT IS THE LATEST NEWS ON THE TWO DETAINED CISCO EMPLOYEES?

ANSWER: OUR LATEST REPORTS CONTINUE TO INDICATE THAT  
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THE MEN MAY BE RELEASED AT AN EARLY DATE.

QUESTION: WHO ARE THE DECEASED?

ANSWER: WE ARE NOT GIVING OUT THE NAMES UNTIL THE NEXT OF KIN ARE NOTIFIED. THE DEPARTMENT HAS SENT TELEGRAMS TO THE TWO FAMILIES CONCERNED.

FYI ONLY: DECEASED ARE ALLWORTH R. BROWN  
AND WILLIAM D. TROWER - END QUOTE ROBINSON

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** PINS, ET, CISCO, (BROWN, ALLWORTH R), (TROWER, WILLIAM D)  
**To:** ADDIS ABABA INFO ASMARA  
SECRETARY  
CINCUSNAVEUR  
USCINCEUR  
COMNAVTELCOM  
CNO

SECDEF

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